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Mock disaster held Sunday



EMTs assist "victim" in Sunday's mock disaster.

Over 70 EMTs, firemen and hospital personnel tested their response at a mock disaster Sunday, May 2 just outside of Heppner.

Carl Lauritson, EMT III and project coordinator says that the exercise "went well." Lauritson said that the function of the exercise was to see just how well the local disaster plan functions and to provide trauma practice since Pioneer Memorial Hospital is designated a trauma hospital.

Lauritson set up the scenario at the Thompson place around three miles out of Heppner toward Lexington. The situation was a collision rollover with a pregnant

mother and children in a car and a school bus with 14 occupants. According to the plan three people were designated to be "dead on arrival" and two "died" enroute to the hospital. High school students played the dead and injured. Around eight Heppner firemen responded with the jaws of life, along with 15 EMTs and Lexington and lone rescue vehicles.

The injured were then transported to the hospital where they were "treated" or "transported" to other facilities. Pioneer Memorial Hospital director of nurses Sheridan Tarnasky, PMH administrator Kevin Erich

and Dr. Ed Beretta set up the scenario at PMH, said Lauritson. Around 50 hospital personnel, including nurses, aides, housekeepers, laboratory and X-ray personnel and Dr. Beretta, responded at the hospital.

Lauritson said that the training session was "more organized" than last year's mock disaster. The event was videotaped at the scene and at the hospital and is in the process of evaluation, he said.

Merry Brannon did make-up for the victims, Rick Walker provided the car and Dan Looslie brought and removed the vehicle from the scene.

Sign up for swimming lessons now at city hall

Organizers of plans to provide swimming lessons to Heppner children at the Ione Pool are encouraging interested parties to add their names to the sign-up sheets now available at Heppner City Hall. City Administrator Gary Marks said that the sign-up process had been slow. "The

sign-up list at city hall will allow our planning group to identify which lessons to offer this summer. So far, sign-ups have been slower than expected," Marks said.

The effort to provide swimming lessons is being organized by the city of Heppner and the Mor-

row County School District as a way to help offset the recently announced closure of the Heppner Pool.

Marks said that since the time available at the Ione pool would be limited to two sessions, the sign-up sheet would be used to decide which lessons would be offered. Lessons on the list include Preschool, Beginner I, Beginner II, Beginner III, Advanced Beginners, Intermediates, Swimmers and Advanced Swimmers. Marks said parents or youth placing names on the list would need to indicate which lessons they are interested in.

Organizers are projecting a program charge of \$25 per student. But Marks emphasized that if enough students signed up the charge could be dropped to as low as \$15 per student. Tentative lesson dates have been set for June 16-27 first session, and August 3-14 second session.

Marks said program organizers were hopeful that the Morrow County School Board would approve a proposal to provide busing for Heppner kids to the Ione Pool, the cost of which would be included in the program fee.

Author visits schools

The way the children clustered around her, it was obvious that she had touched them in some way.

Melissa Madenski, Oregon author, recently spoke to children at Heppner Elementary School about her book "Some of the Pieces." She visited with the kids about the process of getting published and about the subject of her book—the loss of a loved one. Madenski has experienced loss first hand, with the sudden death of her husband when their children were still very young. A comment of her son after his dad had died inspired the title of the book.

Madenski, 42, said that even as a child she was a voracious reader

and she has been writing since she was 11 years old. She has written professionally for the past nine years. Although she had been published in magazines, "Some of the Pieces" was her first published book. She currently has several other projects in the works.

An elementary teacher for six years, Madenski now teaches at a satellite of Portland Community College and at special workshops and travels to schools for brief visitations. She lives in Neskowin, a town smaller than Heppner, north of Lincoln City with her two children.

Publisher of her book is Little Brown, illustrator is Deborah Kogan Ray.

Ione auction barbecue set June 6

By Anne Morter

Mark Saturday, June 6, on your calendar as the day for the 30th annual Ione Auction and barbecue sponsored by the Ione United Church of Christ. Located at the Willows Grange Hall in Ione, this yearly fundraiser brings an exciting and action-packed day to the town.

The day kicks off promptly at 10 a.m. with the opening of the Country Store featuring handmade crafts and sewing, homemade baked goods, the popular "new-to-you" selection and a fish pond for the kids. At 10:15 a silent auction will begin outside on a large assortment of glass items, including vases, dishes and knick knacks. The bids

are opened at 12:15 for that event. The main feature of the day, the auction, gets underway at 10:30. This year's auction will feature a large assortment of antiques, a beautiful handmade quilt as well as the usual (and unusual) items. The antique list includes an oak dresser, a pivot desk chair, three kitchen chairs, two oak rockers, a brass bird cage with an iron stand, a mahogany commode, a wooden high chair, a trunk, a spool bed and an assortment of small antiques and glass ware.

This year's auction quilt is made in a "Columbia" pattern. In quilting, Columbia is the name of a diamond. After the pattern was set for the quilt, it was

discovered that 1992 is the 200th anniversary of the discovery of the Columbia River, giving it some historical significance. Ten women quilted for a total of 189 hours and spent another four hours after the quilting to pin and sew to complete the quilt.

The furious bidding will halt at 12:30 when the pit barbecued beef dinner is served. The dinner, which costs \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for ages 6-12, will include a salad buffet, baked beans and French bread.

"Be sure to reserve the day," said a spokesperson. "You might find a treasure or an old friend, but you are sure to find a good meal and a good time."

Local ranchers and officials join protest

Morrow County farmers, ranchers, and government officials will be in Baker City to join the protest against the environmental extremist attitude that, they feel, threatens their local economy and jeopardizes their cultural heritage.

The meeting, scheduled for May 9, is sponsored by the Sagebrush Coalition and Oregon Rural Alliance. It will address a variety of issues, including the effects of environmental regulation upon commercial enterprise.

"The issue is survival," according to Raymond French, Morrow County Commissioner. "We are talking about preserving our economic stability, our cultural heritage, and our customary way of life."

Traditionally, the county's economic base has been founded on agriculture, livestock production, and timber. Approximately one-eleventh of the county's area is included in the Umatilla National Forest, under the management and control of the U.S. Forest Service. The government pays no property taxes.

"The Forest Service pays a percentage of timber sales receipts to the county in lieu of taxes, but sales are declining observes County Judge Louis Carlson. "And those 146,000 acres will never be the site of any taxable improvements."

Some commercial activity, such as livestock grazing and logging are permitted in the national forest, but all commercial oper-



Val Doherty and county commissioner Ray French discuss upcoming meeting

ations conducted on government lands are subject to regulations serving environmental interests. The regulations are often applied in a manner which increases the cost of operation while prohibiting the expansion of income-producing activity, according to Val Doherty, Morrow County deputy district attorney.

"The law requires obedience to the principles of multiple-use and sustained yield. Often, though, the rancher is forced to pay for projects such as fencing out riparian areas to enhance fish habitat without consideration for the ability to generate the income," Doherty states. "In some cases, the agency actually causes a reduction in the number of livestock animals on the range for which these projects are required, despite their own assessment that the range is stable or improving.

Judge Carlson points out that the loss of commerce creates a domino effect. "When timbermen, ranchers and production industry lose revenue, either because of agency-ordered cuts in their operation, or because of diversion of cash into expensive habitat-rejuvenation projects, that means less dollars spent in our local grocery stores, gasoline stations, pizza parlors, and so on. Then those in service and supply also have less to spend."

"We're a small county, speaking from the population standpoint," notes G.W. "Jerry" Peck, county commissioner. "It doesn't take long to magnify the monetary results. We're also very aware of the potential impact any fish-protection legislation could have on our industry, most of which is concentrated near the Columbia River."

City not involved in alley dispute

Robin Baker, mayor of Ione, said that the city is not involved in a dispute about a turnaround near Beecher's Cafe in Ione. ("Kicking up a fuss about dust," Gazette-Times, April 29.)

Baker said that the city does not own the property and has not promised to gravel the area.

Clean-up week set

Mayor Kay Robinson will issue a proclamation on May 11 setting the weekend of May 16-17 as "Community Spring Clean-Up Weekend".

As part of this weekend, Tidewater Barge Lines will donate the use of a dumpster for residents to deposit yard debris. The dumpster will be located at the corner of Chase Street and May Street in the parking lot of Les Schwab Tire Co. Residents may deposit yard debris, such as grass clippings, leaves, and tree branches, between the hours of 1 and 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. No household garbage, tires, or batteries will be accepted.

"With the good weather now upon us, the city council wanted to give residents a chance to clean-up their properties and have a place to deposit the resulting debris," said Gary Marks, Heppner city administrator. "Thanks to Tidewater Barge Lines, use of the dumpster will be free," he said.

Garret, Morgan chosen to play on all star team



Kari Morgan and Mike Garrett

By Anne Morter

Mike Garrett and Kari Morgan of Ione High School were recently named to the 1A-2A East All Star Basketball team. The teams will gather at the home school of one of their coaches for four days of practice, June 15-18, before traveling to the Willamette Valley for two games against the West team. The games will be played on June 19 and 20.

Garrett was the Cardinal's leading scorer and rebounder this past season, averaging 20 points

and 15 rebounds per game. He was named to the All-Star team at the state tournament in Baker City this year after establishing numerous new records in scoring and rebounding.

Morgan has played varsity ball for the Lady Cardinals since her freshman year and has been a starter and team leader for the past two. She led the team in scoring and rebounding with 18 points and 10.5 rebounds per game.

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